

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

September 19, 2007



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

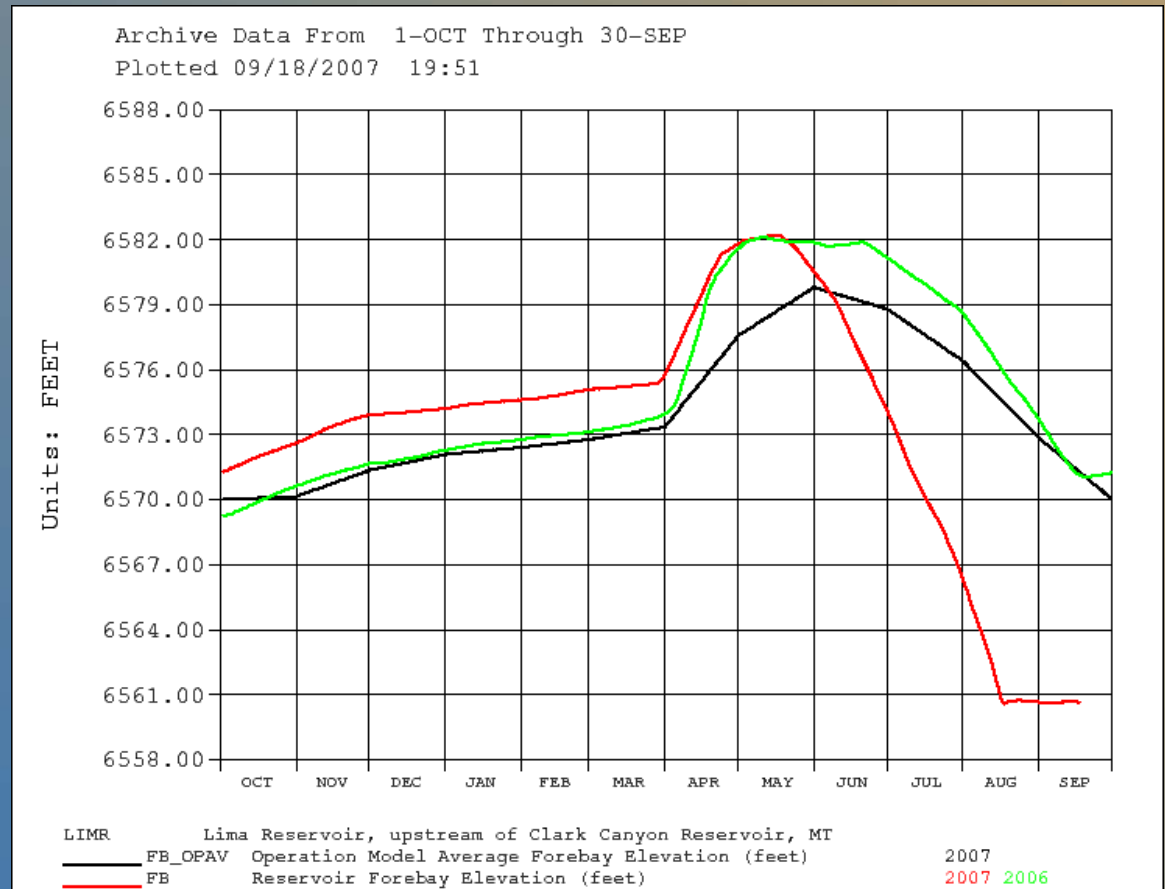
Lima Reservoir

Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 11,700 af - 35% of average & 14% of full capacity

Since mid-May, storage has declined dramatically to meet irrigation demands

At this time, carry-over storage for next year looks poor, however water users should have received near full water supply allotments in 2007



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Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

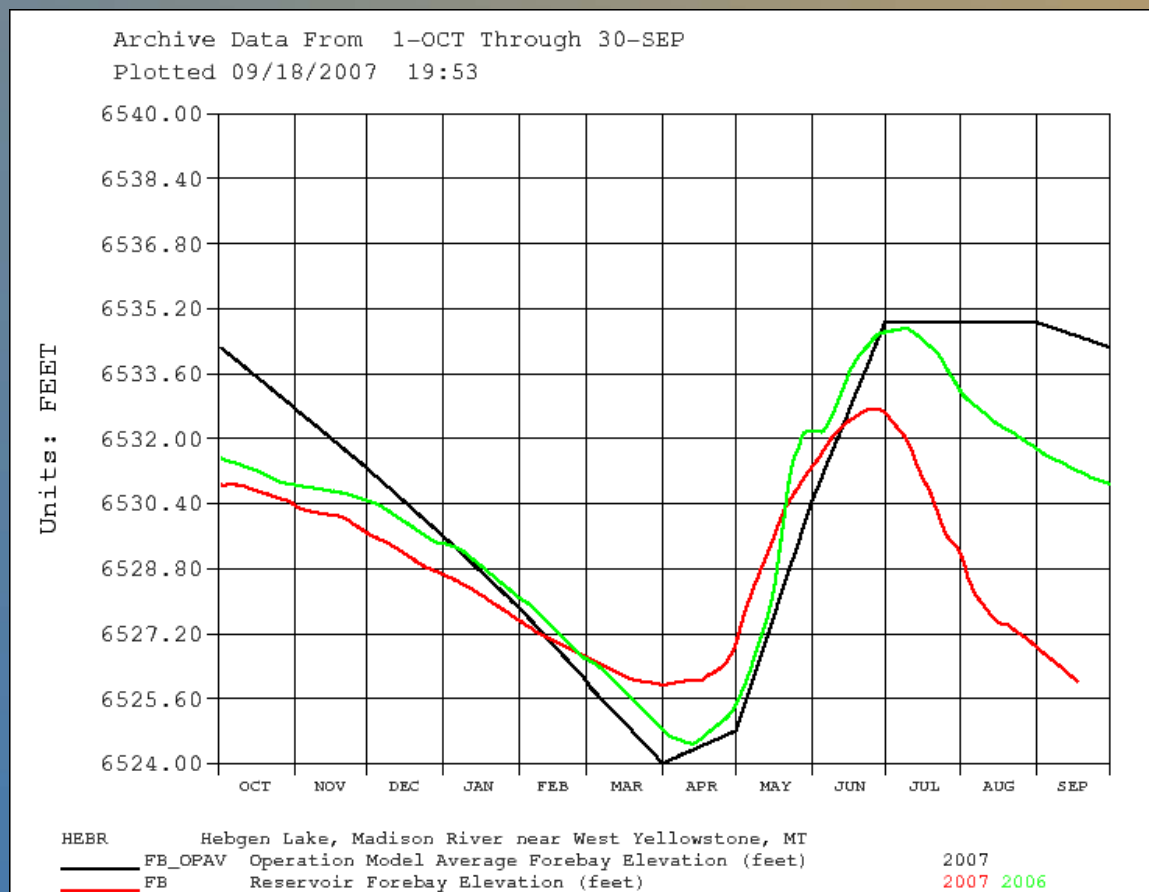
Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 281,700 af - 74% of average & 73% of full capacity

Currently releasing 735 cfs to the Madison River

Pulse flows have been implemented much of the summer to control river temperatures

At this time, carry over storage looks poor with storage levels already at the normal low levels required in early spring



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Clark Canyon Reservoir

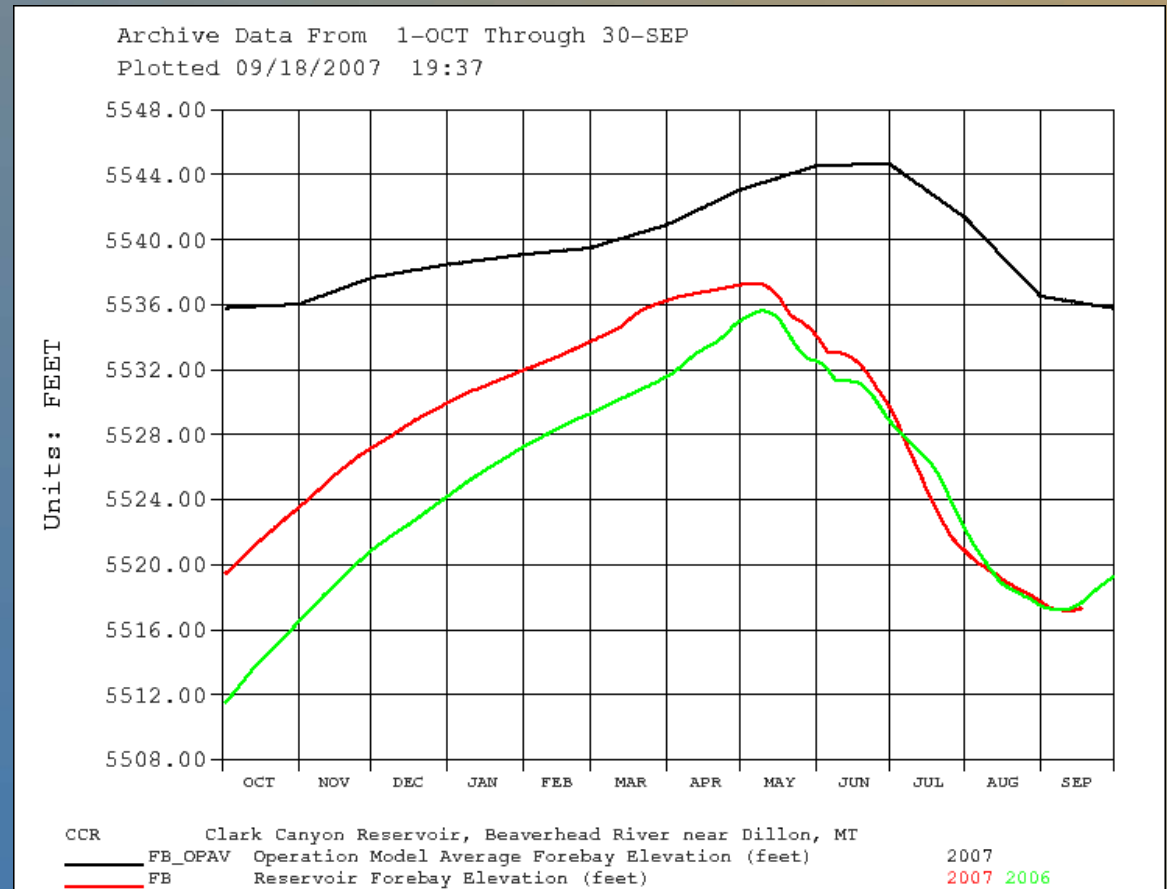
Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 58,900 af - 47% of average & 34% of full capacity

Releases are being maintained at 75 cfs to meet irrigation demands and will soon be reduced to the fall & winter rate of 25-30 cfs

At this time, carry-over storage for next year looks poor but very similar to a year ago

Water users received reduced water allotments in 2007



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Canyon Ferry Reservoir

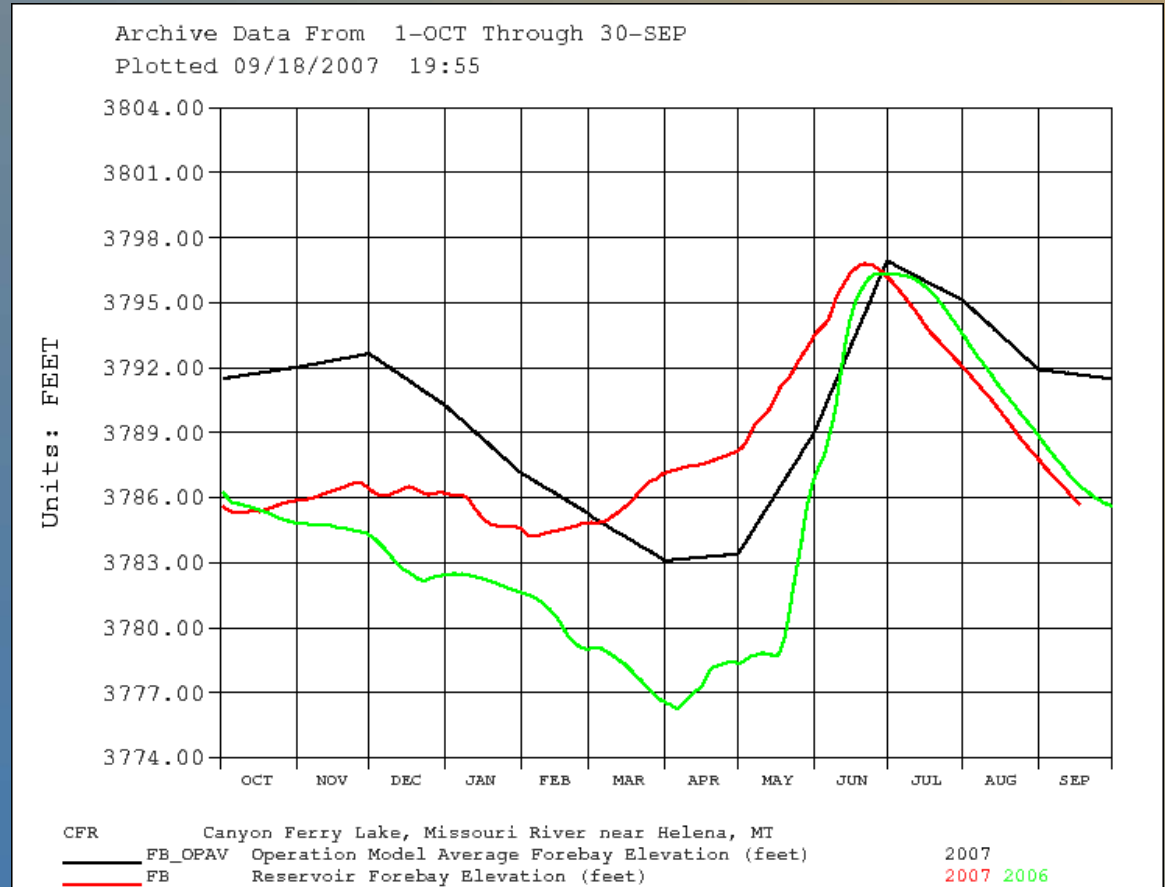
Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 1,527,700 af - 89% of average & 81% of full capacity

Releases are being maintained at 3,400 cfs below Holter Dam

Operations are closely mimicking those in 2006

Water supply outlook looks favorable but will continue to monitor closely and adjust releases lower if needed to protect storage



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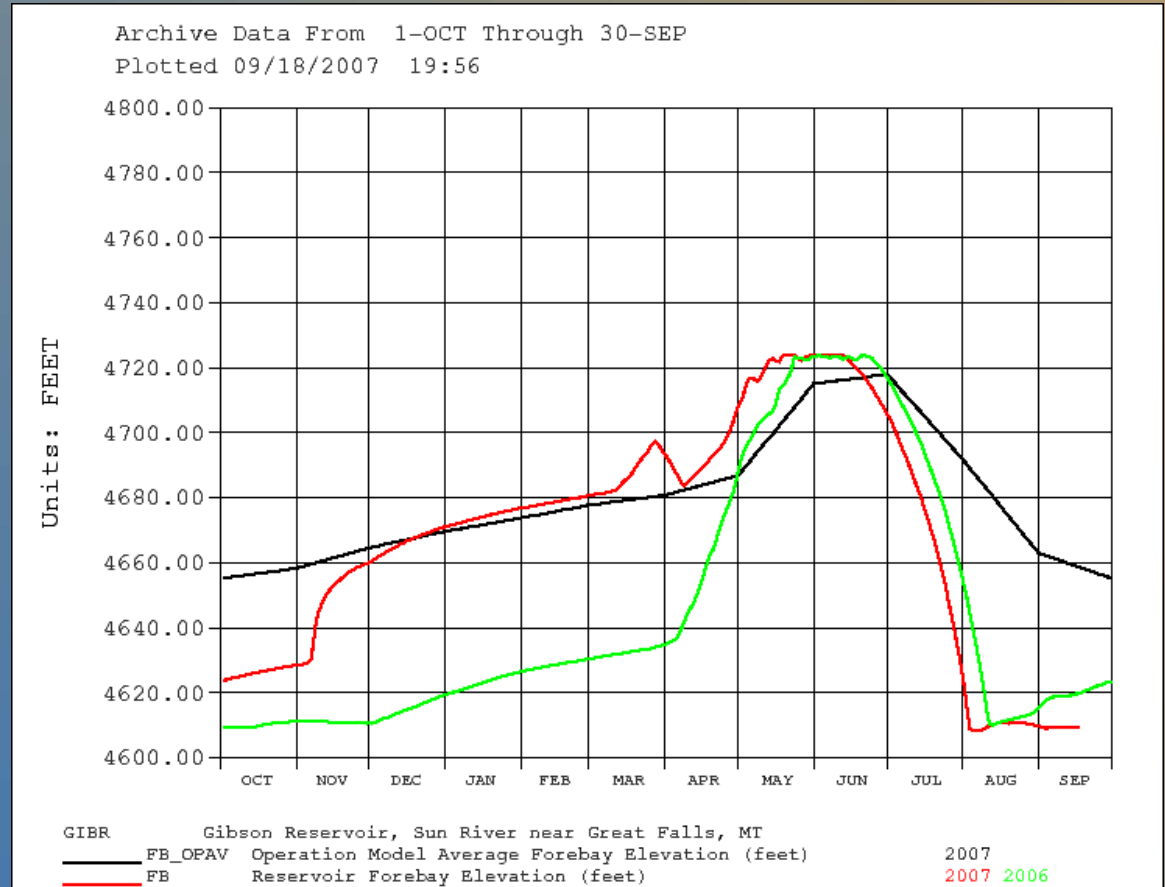
Gibson Reservoir

Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 5,200 af - 17% of average & 5% of full capacity

Total release from Gibson is being maintained at 160 cfs of which 50 cfs is being diverted to Willow Creek Reservoir

Even though all reservoirs were full, water users experienced severe water shortages this summer primarily due to the lack of summer & fall precipitation in the watershed



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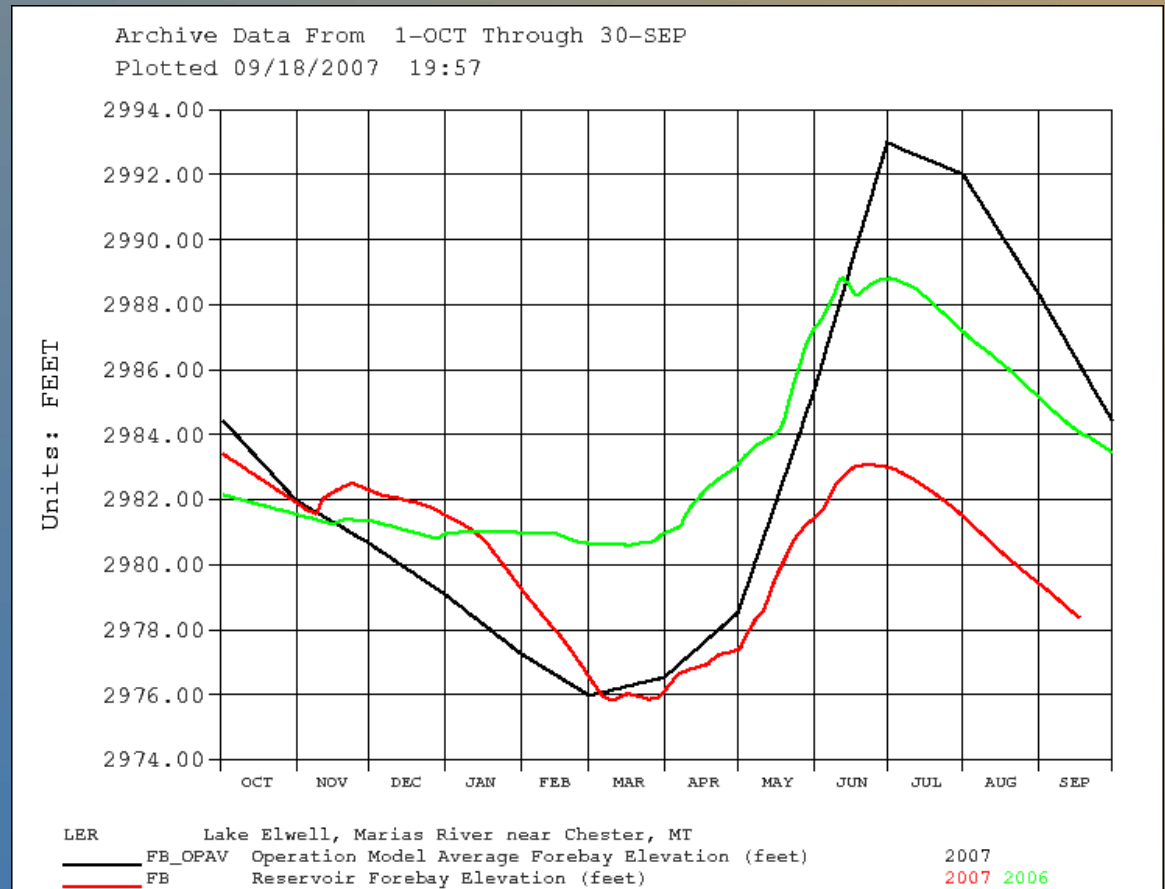
Lake Elwell (Tiber Reservoir)

Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 697,900 af - 86% of average & 75% of full capacity

Releases to the Marias River are being maintained at 350 cfs and will be further reduced to 320 cfs in early Oct

At this time, carry-over storage for next year will be at critically low levels



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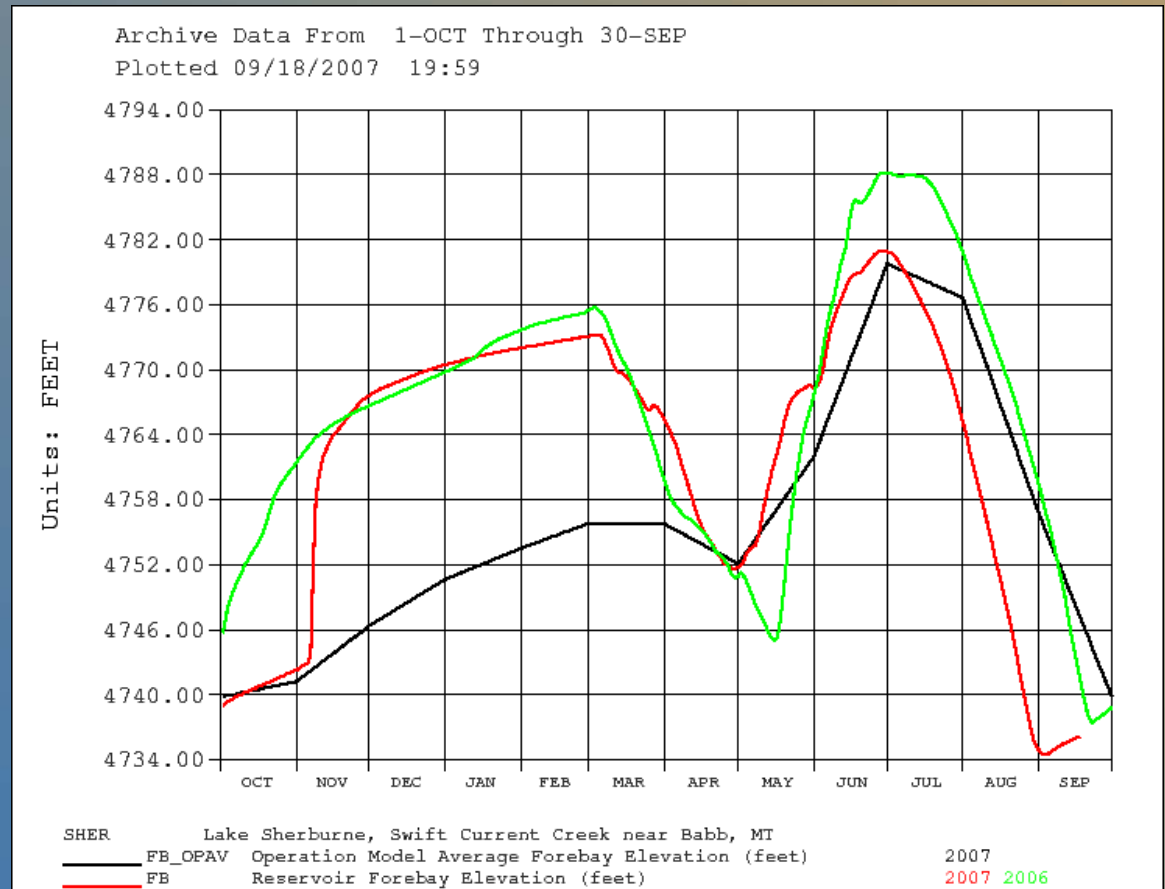
Lake Sherburne

Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 18,700 af – 40% of average & 9% of full capacity

All releases from Lake Sherburne and all diversions from St. Mary River Basin to the Milk River Basin were discontinued

At this time, carry-over storage for next year looks poor



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Fresno Reservoir

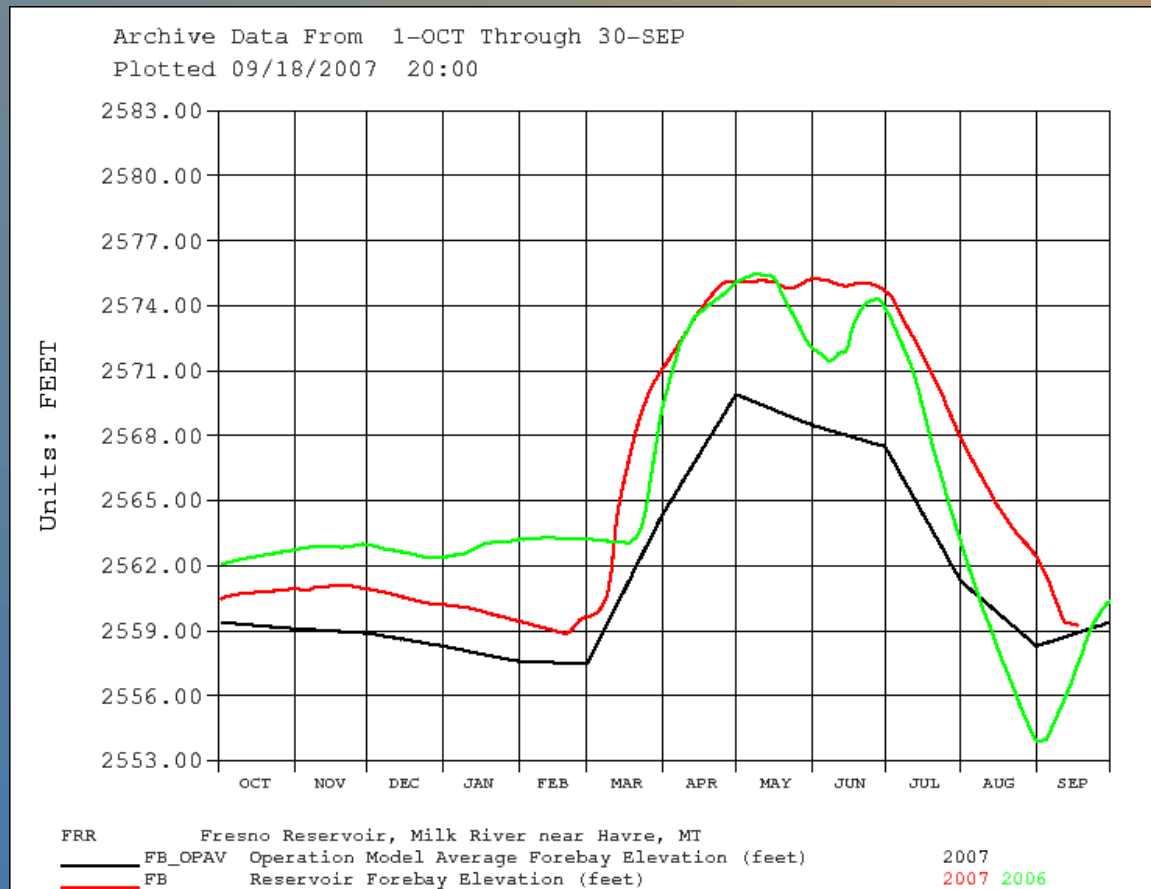
Inflows continue to remain well below normal

All diversions from St. Mary Basin to Milk River were discontinued on Sept. 5

Storage @ 39,500 af - 102% of average & 43% of full capacity

All releases have been discontinued for the year

At this time, carry-over storage for next year looks favorable but will be closely monitored



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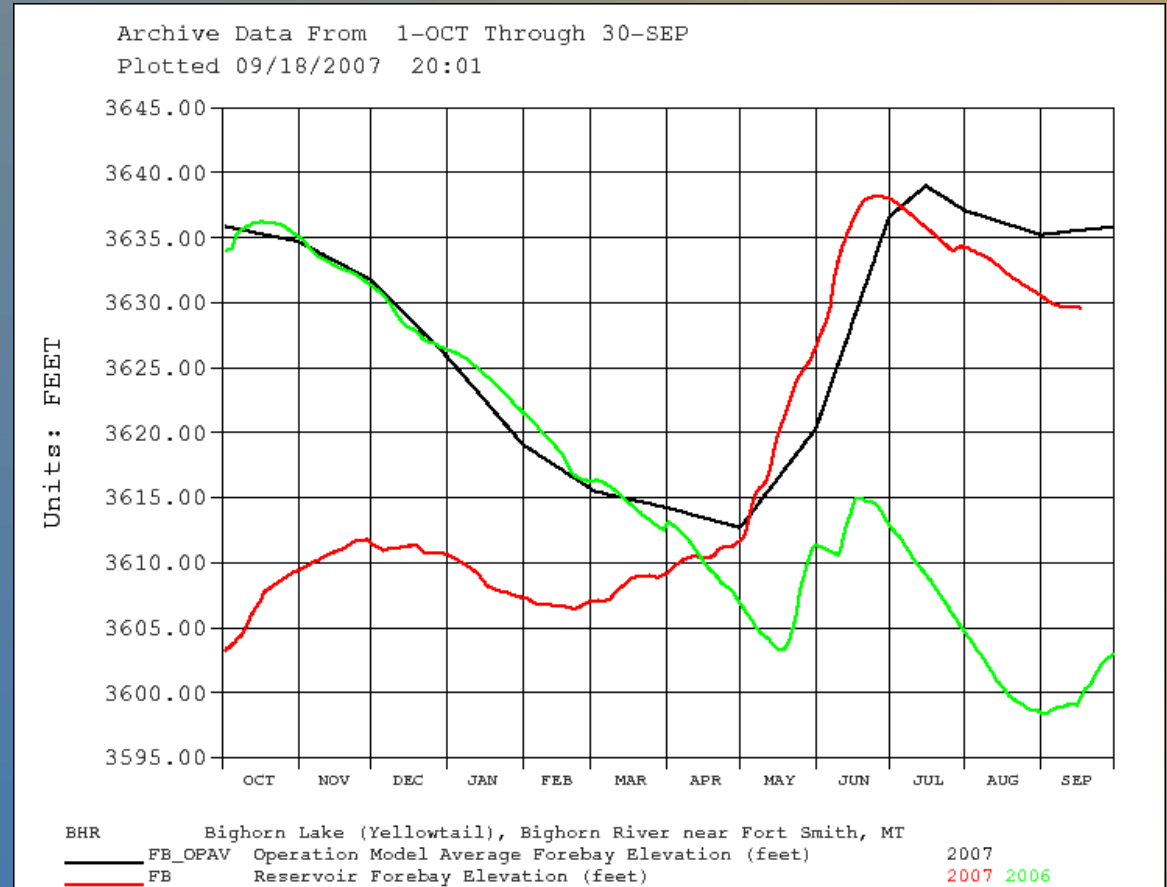
Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

Inflows continue to remain well below normal

Storage @ 955,800 af - 94% of average & 89% of full capacity

Releases are being maintained at 1,750 cfs, about 750 cfs below the minimum desired fisher flow of 2,500 cfs

As Reclamation continues to monitor climatic conditions closely, the present water supply looks favorable for providing higher fall and winter releases



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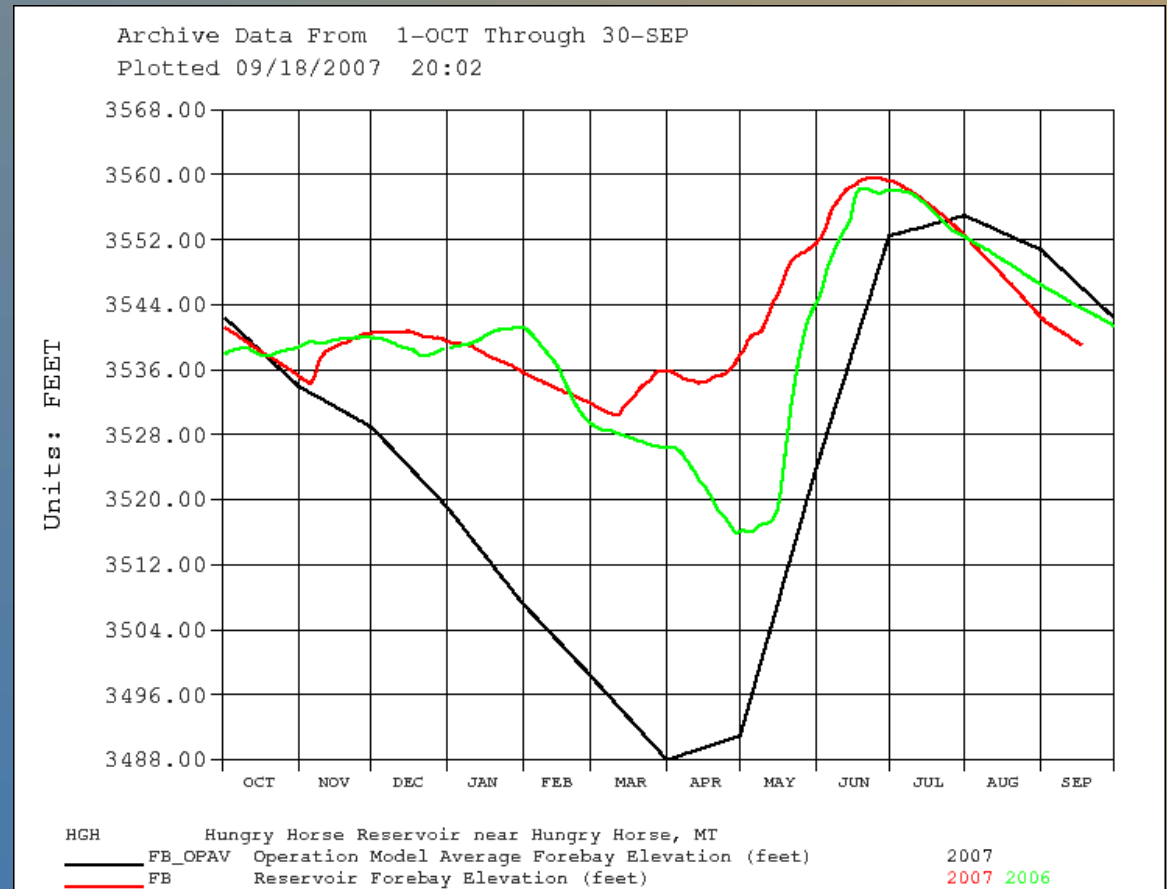
Hungry Horse Reservoir

Inflows continue to remain well below average

Storage @ 2,991,114 af - 95% of average & 86% of full capacity

Releasing 2,370 cfs to river

Operations were successful in filling Hungry Horse and conservative releases will continue



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Reservoir Conditions for Reclamation Reservoirs

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
MONTANA AREA OFFICE
RESERVOIR OPERATIONS REPORT
18-Sep-2007
ALL CONTENTS IN ACRE-FEET

RESERVOIR NAME	NORMAL FULL POOL	TOTAL CAPACITY	AVERAGE CAPACITY	RESERVOIR CONDITIONS							WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK						
				ELEVATION (FEET)		CAPACITY (ACRE-FEET)		2007			MTN. SNOW WATER CONTENT (INCHES)				SEPTEMBER RUNOFF SEPTEMBER 1st FORECAST		
				2006	2007	2006	2007	% FULL	% OF AVG	% OF Last Yr	2006	2007	AVG	% OF AVG	(KAF)	AVG	% OF AVG
CLARK CANYON	5546.10	174,368	125,860	5517.83	5517.44	60,205	59,133	34	47	98	0.29	0.11	0.02	752	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
CANYON FERRY	3797.00	1,891,888	1,717,159	3786.46	3785.59	1,551,841	1,524,901	81	89	98	0.19	0.14	0.06	238	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
GIBSON	4724.00	96,477	30,021	4620.23	4609.50	9,109	5,164	5	17	57	0.18	0.60	0.02	3000	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
PISHKUN	4370.00	46,670	33,756	4342.00	4342.00	16,008	16,008	34	47	100	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
WILLOW CREEK	4142.00	32,300	17,880	4133.93	4126.88	20,799	13,174	41	74	63	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
LAKE ELWELL	2993.00	925,648	807,089	2984.02	2978.33	777,272	697,407	75	86	90	0.16	0.70	0.10	719	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
SHERBURNE	4788.00	67,854	13,831	4740.30	4736.32	8,717	5,891	9	43	68	0.20	0.15	0.08	196	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
FRESNO	2575.00	92,880	38,859	2557.80	2559.25	36,273	39,523	43	102	109	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
NELSON	2221.60	78,951	55,688	2212.24	2214.06	44,324	50,064	63	90	113	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
BIGHORN LAKE	3640.00	1,070,029	1,017,844	3600.25	3629.59	745,962	955,600	89	94	128	0.44	0.10	0.16	62	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

RESERVOIR NAME	Inflow		Change From A Year Ago		Feet to Fill												
	Current	% of Avg	Elevation	Capacity													
CLARK CANYON	187	60	-0.39	-1,072	28.66												
CANYON FERRY	1,721	52	-0.87	-26,940	11.41												
GIBSON	158	52	-10.73	-3,945	114.50												
PISHKUN	0	N.A.	0.00	0	28.00												
WILLOW CREEK	99	N.A.	-7.05	-7,625	15.12												
LAKE ELWELL	91	44	-5.69	-79,865	14.67												
SHERBURNE	40	41	-3.98	-2,826	51.68												
FRESNO	41	10	1.45	3,250	15.75												
NELSON	267	N.A.	1.82	5,740	7.54												
BIGHORN LAKE	1,956	63	29.34	209,638	10.41												

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Summary of Operations of Reclamation Projects

- Inflows to Reclamation reservoirs continue to remain at or near record low levels.
- Reservoir storages vary from 5% of average @ Gibson to 102% of average at Fresno.
- Carry-over storage at most Reclamation projects are generally in poor condition with the exception of Bighorn Lake on the Bighorn River, Fresno Reservoir on the Milk River, and Clark Canyon Reservoir on the Beaverhead River.
- Water users in the Sun River watershed experienced water shortages in early August.
- Water users in the Beaverhead River basin operated with reduced allotments set in 2007.
- Reclamation will continue to monitor hydrologic and climatic conditions closely this fall and winter and will be prepared for making further reductions in releases if necessary to conserve reservoir storages.

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